

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 6, 13, 15 and 21 have been amended, claim 19 has been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-9 and 13-18 and 20-23 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 6, 13 and 21 are independent claims. The Office Action indicated that claims 3-5 and 9 are objected to but allowable if presented in independent form.

Entry of the Amendments and Remarks is respectfully requested because entry of Amendment places the present application in condition for allowance, or in the alternative, better form for appeal. No new matters are believed to be added by these Amendments. In view of the above amendments and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 6 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

In these response, claims 6 and 15 have been amended to correct the insufficient antecedent basis issues. In claim 6, the recitation of “the curved portions” has been replaced with --the bent portions--. In claim 15, the recitations of “data line” have been replaced with --second wire--.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6 and 15, as amended, fully comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection of claims 6 and 15.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 13-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,172,729 issued to Ikeda (“Ikeda”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 1 recites “wherein equidistance points between the two neighboring second wires form *a substantially straight line*”. An example of this claimed feature is shown in Fig. 1 of the present application, in which the equidistance points of the two neighboring data lines 130 forms a substantially straight line.

In this regard, Fig. 6 of Ikeda shows the data lines 11m and 11n bent toward the same direction (either to left or right) by the bending portions. In other words, in Ikeda, when the data line 11m is bent to left, the data line 11n is bent to left, and when the data line 11m is bent to right, the data line 11n is bent to right. Thus, in Ikeda, the equidistance points between the data lines 11n and 11m would not form a substantially straight line. For this reason, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Ikeda.

Similarly, amended independent claim 21 recites “wherein equidistance points between the two neighboring second wires form a substantially straight line”. As previously mentioned, Ikeda fails to disclose this claimed feature. Thus, it is submitted that claim 21 is patentable over Ikeda. Claim 22 that is dependent from claim 21 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

With respect to claims 13-18, independent claim 13 has been amended to further recite “wherein equidistance points between two neighboring second wires form a substantially straight line”. As previously mentioned, Ikeda fails to disclose or suggest this claimed feature. Thus, it is

submitted that claim 13 is patentable over Ikeda. Claims 14-18 and 20 that are dependent from claim 13 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claims 1 and 13-22.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikeda. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 6 recites “wherein equidistance points between the two neighboring data wires form a substantially straight line”. As previously mentioned, Ikeda fails to disclose this claimed feature. Also, Ikeda shows no motivation to modify the data lines to meet the limitation. Thus, it would not have been obvious to modify the structure shown in Figs. 1 or 6A of Ikeda to arrive at the invention defined in claim 6.

Thus, it is submitted that claim 6 is patentable over Ikeda. Claim 7 that is dependent from claim 6 would be also patentable at least for the same reason. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 6 and 7.

Claims 2 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikeda in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,266,118 to Lee (“Lee”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 2 is dependent from claim 1. As previously mentioned, claim 1 has been amended and is now believed to be patentable over Ikeda. For example, Ikeda fails to disclose or suggest “wherein equidistance points between the two neighboring second wires form a substantially

straight line”, as recited in claim 1. Also, Ikeda does not exhibit any motivation to form the data lines such that the equidistance points between the two neighboring second wires form a substantially straight line.

Lee is directed to forming a multi-domain pixel region but fails to disclose or suggest forming a bent portion on a wire. Thus, Lee does not cure the deficiency from Ikeda. For this reason, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Ikeda and Lee. Claim 2 that is dependent from claim 1 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

Claim 8 is dependent from claim 6. As previously mentioned, claim 6 has been amended to recite “wherein equidistance points between the two neighboring data wires form a substantially straight line”. As previously mentioned, Ikeda fails to disclose this claimed feature. Lee even doesn’t disclose a bent portion formed on a data line. Thus, it is submitted that claim 6 is patentable over Ikeda and Lee. Claim 8 that is dependent from claim 6 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 2 and 8.

Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikeda in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,172,729 to Koma (“Koma”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 23 is dependent from claim 21. As previously mentioned, independent claim 21 has been amended and is now believed to be patentable over Ikeda. For example, Ikeda fails to disclose or suggest “wherein equidistance points between the two neighboring second wires form a substantially straight line”.

Koma discloses orientation control windows formed on the common electrode to control the electric field. However, Koma even does not show or suggest bending two neighboring data lines. Thus, Koma fails to cure the deficiency from Ikeda, and therefore claim 21 is patentable over Ikeda and Koma. Claim 23 that is dependent from claim 21 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 23.

Other Matters

In addition to the claim amendments mentioned above, claims 1, 6, 13, 15 and 21 have been amended for the sole purposes of informality correction and clarification. Claim 19 has been cancelled to be consistent with the amendment made to claim 13.

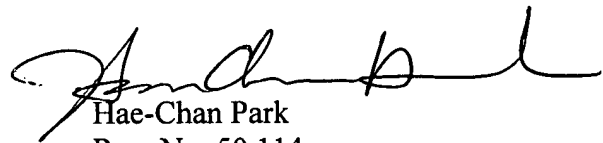
CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submits that all of the stated grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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